

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 073188 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 ACDA-07 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /060 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
INFO SECDEF ISA
CSAF
HQ MAC SCOTT AFB ILL
HQ AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 073188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GR

SUBJECT: AIR WEATHER SERVICE PROPOSAL FOR SOLAR ELECTRO-
OPTICAL NETWORK SURVEYS

REF: ATHENS 1551

1. THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED FOR USE OF EMBASSY IN
PREPARING NOTE TO GOG (PARA 2, REF).

A. START DATE OF SURVEYS WILL BE AT GOG CONVENIENCE. USAF
TEAM OF FOUR TO SIX CIVILIAN/MILITARY COULD BE READY
WITHIN 2-4 WEEKS AFTER APPROVAL TO INITIATE SURVEY. THREE
OR FOUR PEOPLE FROM THE AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND (AFSC/ESD)
AND ONE OR TWO FROM THE OPERATING COMMAND (AIR WEATHER
SERVICE) ARE REQUIRED FOR THE PRELIMINARY SURVEY.

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B. USAF PLANS TO MAN NEW SEON FACILITY WITH ABOUT 17
PERSONNEL FOR BASIC OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF BOTH THE
OPTICAL AND RADIO TELESCOPE. CONSIDERING THE CURRENT
FACILITY IS AUTHORIZED 7 MILITARY PERSONNEL, THE NEW FACIL-
ITY WOULD REQUIRE AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 10 PEOPLE. SEON
USES A SMALL COMPUTER FOR EQUIPMENT OPERATION/CONTROL AND

REQUIRES RESPONSIVE VOICE AND TELETYPE COMMUNICATIONS.
DEPENDING ON SITE SELECTED, A FEW ADDITIONAL PEOPLE MUST BE

NECESSARY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE COMPUTER AND
COMMUNICATIONS.

C. STATE 15769 IS CLASSIFIED IN ORDER TO PROTECT PROPOSAL
UNTIL SURVEYS COMPLETED AND SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS REACHED
WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT. OTHERWISE THERE IS NO. REPEAT,
NO CLASSIFIED DATA WITHIN THE TEXT OF STATE 15769. THE
TECHNICAL DETAILS OF SEON, THE FACILITY OPERATION, AND THE
RAW DATA PRODUCED ARE UNCLASSIFIED. HOWEVER, SPECIFICS ON
DOD SYSTEMS SUPPORTED BY THE APPLICATION OF SEON DATA
ARE PROTECTED BY DEFENSE WITH APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION.
RELEASE TO ALLIED FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE
CONSIDERED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.

D. THE AIR FORCE IS WILLING TO EXPLORE A CONTRACT OR JOINT
OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE FACILITY. WHILE THE SITE
OPERATION MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO USAF OPERATION REQUIRE-
MENTS, THE DATA PRODUCED CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GOG
IF NO ADDITIONAL COST TO THE US IS INCURRED.

2. WE REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OF EMBASSY RECOMMENDATIONS
ON INCLUDING SOUDA AND IRAKLION IN THE SURVEYS REQUESTS.
THE PROPOSED FACILITY WILL BE A KEY AND FINAL LINK IN
THE WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF FIVE SEON STATIONS PLANNED BY
DEFENSE. CONSIDERING THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND MISSION
SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FACILITY, DEFENSE STRESSES
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THE NEED FOR AN OPERATIONALLY EFFECTIVE LOCATION. PRIME
CONSIDERATIONS IN A SITE LOCATION ARE MINIMUM CLOUDINESS,
HAZE, OR SMOKE AND ELECTRO MAGNETIC INTERFERENCE, ACCESS
TO GOOD COMMUNICATIONS AND SUPPORT FACILITIES, AND
SUFFICIENT PROPERTY (3-5 ACRES DEPENDING ON LOCATION) FOR
TWO BUILDINGS (EACH APPROXIMATELY 1200 SQ FT) AND
ASSOCIATED ANTENNAS. FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT, AND UNLESS
EMBASSY FORESEES SOME SERIOUS PROBLEM, THE ABOVE TWO
LOCATIONS, PARTICULARLY IRAKLION, SHOULD ALSO BE SURVEYED
FOR SUITABILITY.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH GOG WITH A FORMAL
REQUEST FOR SITE SURVEYS.

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